

Introduction

Your family is now involved in the juvenile court system due to a referral to Juvenile Court Intake or because of the filing of a CHIPS (WI Stata. Chapter 48), JIPS or Delinquency (WI Stats. Chapter 938) Petition. The court system encourages parents to be actively involved in the court process and with the services recommended to help resolve the issues that may have contributed to your child's involvement in the juvenile court system.

The juvenile court system attempts to rehabilitate youth through the use of various interventions and services. Many of these services focus on the family. The court system can assist families in understanding their issues and in contacting appropriate services for help.

An intake worker/case manager has been assigned to work with your family. This worker will assist you in obtaining services for your family. The juvenile court system does not want to take responsibility away from you in making decisions that are in your child's best interests. The juvenile court system attempts to balance your child's needs, your family's needs and the needs of the community.

Parents may be held responsible for a portion of the court costs or other costs incurred as a result of your child's juvenile court involvement.

This includes a portion of the cost for any out of home placements that might be ordered by the juvenile court.

Determining Your Parental Fee For Court Ordered Out of Home Placements

When it appears that child/juvenile may be placed outside of his or her home as a result of a court order, the court must order the parent(s) to provide a statement of income, assets, debts and living expenses to determine how much the parent(s) could be billed for their child's placement.

Parental Fee means that the parent(s) may be assessed a fee based on their: Family income and Family size.

A service clerk will send each parent a financial disclosure form to help determine if a fee will be charged for their child's out of home placement. The form needs to be completed in full and with complete financial information to insure that the parent(s) are billed at the lowest possible rate in relation to their family income, size and ability to pay. It is the family's responsibility to provide complete and accurate financial information.

If there are financial changes during the year, you are required to notify Juneau County Department of Human Services for a re-determination of your financial responsibility and payment ability.

The service clerk uses your financial information to complete the Parental Fee Worksheet which is used to calculate parental contributions toward the services provided.

Refusal to provide family financial information could result in the maximum fee being charged for your child's out of home care and/or services.

If the assigned parental fee will create a financial hardship for your family, you may request a reduction. You will be asked to provide specific income and expense information and a statement.

Juneau County

Department of Human Services

Understanding the Juvenile Court System



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Juvenile Court Terms

Intake Worker:: Individual who has initial contact with case; decides temporary custody issues & recommends if court involvement is needed.

Referral: A law enforcement or no-law enforcement referral of a juvenile who may be delinquent or in need of protection or services. The decision of the intake worker is recorded on the referral.

Intake Inquiry: Notice of intake inquiry is a written notification to a juvenile/parent that a referral has been sent to intake requesting their presence at an intake inquiry/conference to discuss the referral.

Intake Inquire Options:

1. **Dismiss:** Case dismissed, insufficient evidence; lack jurisdiction to prosecute.
2. **Counsel & Release:** Case Closed
3. **Deferred Prosecution Agreement:** (Delinquency/JIPS) A written agreement outlining conditions/obligations to be met in order to defer filing of a petition with the court.
4. **Request:** By Intake to District Attorney to file a juvenile court petition.

Disposition Worker / Social Worker / Case Manager: Individual assigned to case after a juvenile court petition is filed. Worker continues case assessment, makes recommendations to the court & supervises court orders.

CHIPS Cases: Children alleged to be in need of protection & services for abuse, neglect, inadequate care, or who are in need of special care and treatment.

JIPS Cases: A juvenile alleged to be in need of protection and services who is uncontrollable, truant from school or truant from home, or a delinquent juvenile under 10 years of age.

Delinquency Petition: If a juvenile over the age of 10 and under the age of 17 violates the law, this petition initiates court action.

Court Hearings:

Initial or Plea: (First hearing) Youth & family advised of their legal rights & informed of reason for court involvement.

Plea: (Second Hearing) Youth, along with an attorney, admit or deny the allegations in the juvenile court petition.

Pre-Trial Conference: Meeting prior to fact-finding/adjudication hearing attended by the district attorney, the juvenile's attorney and the juvenile's social worker/case manager to discuss dispositional alternatives and possible court recommendations. The juvenile and parent(s) will often attend the pre-trial conference also.

Consent Decree: Formal court agreement consisting of conditions juvenile/family must follow. Suspends court proceedings for up to twelve months.

Fact-Finding/Adjudication: (Third hearing) Trial portion of proceedings. The judge determines if child will be adjudicated CHIPS, JIPS or Delinquent.

Disposition: (Fourth/final hearing) Judge makes decision on what happens to youth. This can include out of home placement, corrections and /or community supervision.

Dispositional Order: A formal order imposed by the Judge for up to one year at the dispositional hearing. It consists of conditions the juvenile/family must comply with.

Other Telephone Numbers:

Wisconsin Public Defender:	355-3180
Juneau County Sheriff Dept.:	847-5649
Mauston Police Dept.:	847-6363
New Lisbon Police Dept.:	562-3333
Wonewoc Police Dept.:	464-3961
Necedah Police Dept.:	565-2405
Elroy Police Dept.:	462-2424

Explanation of Select Disposition Conditions:

Community Service Hours: Uncompensated work youth must work to pay back the community for his/her previous actions.

Electronic Monitoring: A non-secure alternative providing additional supervision of a youth in the home. An "angle bracelet" is placed on the youth to monitor the youth's whereabouts.

Mediation: A meeting between a delinquent youth & a victim so the youth can hear about the effects his/her actions had on the victim.

Restitution: Amount of money a delinquent youth must pay back to a victim for loss(es) incurred as a result of a delinquent act.

Sanctions: Consequences imposed by a Judge on a youth for not complying with the dispositional order.

Juvenile Detention: A secure locked facility for holding a youth in custody.

Shelter Care: A non-secure facility used for the temporary holding of a youth awaiting juvenile court action.

Temporary Physical Custody Order: A record of the decision of the intake worker/court official concerning the custody (secure/non-secure) placement of a youth.

72-Hour Custody Hold: A short term caseworker custody hold pending investigation of an alleged violation or as a consequence for a violation or as a consequence for a violation of a dispositional order. The juvenile is usually held in juvenile detention or in shelter care.